

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: :
: *Seiji YAMASHITA et al.* : Atty Docket: 1581/00260
: :
Serial No.: To be assigned : Art Unit: To be assigned
: :
Filed: Herewith : Examiner: To be assigned
: :
For: SURFACTANT, PROCESS :
FOR PRODUCING THE :
SAME, AND DETERGENT :
COMPOSITION :
:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-captioned case as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claim as follows:

8. (Amended) An emulsifier, dispersant, solubilizer, detergent, penetrating agent or wetting agent, comprising the nonionic surfactant according to Claim 1.

Please insert the following new claims:

9. (Added) An emulsifier, dispersant, solubilizer, detergent, penetrating agent or wetting agent, comprising the nonionic surfactant according to Claim 2.

10. (Added) An emulsifier, dispersant, solubilizer, detergent, penetrating agent or wetting agent, comprising the nonionic surfactant according to Claim 3.

11. (Added) An emulsifier, dispersant, solubilizer, detergent, penetrating agent or wetting agent, comprising the nonionic surfactant according to Claim 4.

12. (Added) An emulsifier, dispersant, solubilizer, detergent, penetrating agent or wetting agent, comprising the nonionic surfactant according to Claim 5.

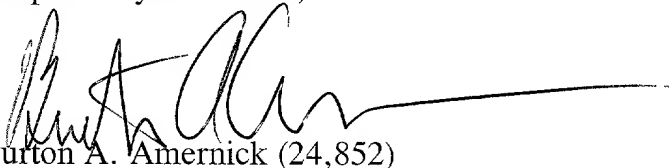
13. (Added) An emulsifier, dispersant, solubilizer, detergent, penetrating agent or wetting agent, comprising the nonionic surfactant according to Claim 6.

14. (Added) An emulsifier, dispersant, solubilizer, detergent, penetrating agent or wetting agent, comprising the nonionic surfactant according to Claim 7.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependency and to improve their format. None of these amendments is believed to involve any new matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the foregoing amendments be entered, that the application as so amended receive an examination on the merits, and that the claims as now presented receive an early allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 28, 2001

APPENDIX

MARKED-UP CLAIMS

8. (Amended) An emulsifier, dispersant, solubilizer, detergent, penetrating agent or wetting agent, comprising the nonionic surfactant according to [Claims 1-7] Claim 1.